Steps to check population Growth

1147. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the concrete and meaningful steps Government propose to take to invoke the cooperation of the people of the country including Muslims in checking the growth of population of the country to avoid foodgrain shortage in the next few years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA) Multi Media Information, Education and Communication strategies have been developed to create positive opinions and to increase acceptance of the Family Planning services. In major States, Opinion Leaders are being sensitized for participation in the Family Welfare Programme. IEC material has also been developed for specific segments of the population.

Medical care to Central Government Employees

1148. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have failed in providing an efficient and meaningful medical care and service to the Central Government employees in the country in that the Government servants are made to incur the expenditure for the tereatment first and then to get them reimbursed later;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to withdraw the revised procedure;

(c) whether there are small clinics provided in Government colonies like R. K. Puram, New Delhi for pathological tests like blood, urine, stool etc. and these clinics do not provide an efficient and quick service and the beneficiaries have to wait for number of days for the tests and the same is true to other hospital like Safdarjung Hospital.

(d) whether a demand is continued to be made for a number of years for the establishment of polyclinics in Government colonies like R. K. Puram for the benefit of the beneficiaries;

(e) if so, the reasons for overlooking the genuine need, requirement and demand of the Government servants and the steps taken to immediately position a polyclinic in R. K. Puram; and

(f) the steps taken to augment the resources in the existing clinic in R. K. Puram to save the time in waiting till a fullfledged polyclinic is sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. This scheme is most sought after by the employees of other organisations also for medical care.

Though in some cases relating to treatment in Government referral/private hospitals recognised under CGHS the Central Government servants have to incur the expenditure first, but in order to mitigate their difficulties, they have been made eligible to draw medical advance from their respective Ministries/Departments to the extent of 80 per cent of the estimate given by the hospital.

(c) Pathological tests are being provided daily an Maternity and Gynae Hospital, R. K. Puram for maternity and Gynae cases and at CGHS dispensary, R. K. Puram-III for all purposes. However, biochemical tests like blood sugar, blood urea and serum cholesterol are done on selected days.

The test reports are made available in a day or two depending unon the time involvled in carrying out such tests. This is also applicable in the case of Safdarjung Hospital.

(d) to (f) At present there is no proposal for opening of polyclinic in Government colonies like R. K. Puram due

to non-availability of resources. However, to augment the facilities, a provision has been made for providing semi-automatic cell counter and spectrometer in the pathological laboratory, R. K. Puram-III.

Patenting the wonder drug 'Brahmi'

1149. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that faculty of Ayurveda Researchers in Banaras Hindu University have recently approached the Ministry to explore the possibility of patenting of the product "Brahmi" an Aqurvedic wonder drug;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating whether the Ayurvedic drug "Brahmi" is proposed to be patented; and

(c) if answer be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor stating the steps taken by Government to remove the hurdles in patenting the drug?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA). (a) No formal proposal has been received from the Banaras Hindu University.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Strike by Resident Doctors of Sucheta Kriplani and Kalawati Saran Hospitals

1150. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Resident Doctors of Sucheta Kriplani and Kalawati Saran Hospitals in New Delhi went on a strike recently;

(b) if so, the details of the demands of Doctors which compelled them to resort to strike; and

(c) whether the strike has since been called off and if so, the details of the agreement arrived at between Government and the Doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C SILVERA): (a) Yes Sir

(b) The demands of the Resident Doctors inter-alia include:—

(i) Participation of the representative of RDA in the selection process of Resident Doctors.

(ii) Entrustment of the management of cafetaria to the Resident Doctors.

(iii) Provision of security arrangement in the campus

(iv) Abolition of security deposits for library.

(v) Provision of increased and hygienic water supply etc.

(c) The strike was called off unconditionally.

Report of the Supervisory Team of World Bank of AIDS programme

1151. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank Supervisory Team on the AIDS programme has stressed on stopping clandestinely operating blood banks and for framing guidelines for transfusion of blood in its report submitted recently; and

(b) if so, the decision taken on it and the reaction of Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The observations made by the World Bank supervisory team have been brought to the notice of the Drug Controller of India and the States/UTs for appropriate action.